

HINCKLEY
Rural District Council.




Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,
For the Year, 1904.

HINCKLEY :

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REPORT.



To the Chairman and Members of the Hinckley Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my third Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population :—Census 1891, 10,162.

„ 1901, 12,632.

Estimated to middle of 1903, 13,557.

During 1904, 373 births and 163 deaths have been registered in the district. In addition to the latter there were four deaths in the Union Workhouse, two in the Hinckley Cottage Hospital and one in the Leicester Infirmary, among persons belonging to the District.

The Birth Rate is 27·5 per 1000 of the population.

The Death Rate is 12·5 per 1000 of the population.

The Zymotic Death Rate is 0·66 per 1000 of the population.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 88 per 1000 of the Births.

The Birth Rate, which has been steadily declining since 1898, is the lowest ever recorded in your District. As a set-off I, however, direct attention to the rate of mortality among infants which is also lower than any heretofore published in your Annual Health Reports. The gross death-rate, too, is far below the average, and, with the single exception of that which I published last year, is the lowest yet returned.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

It is in the Zymotic Death Rate that a steady improvement is most manifest. Prior to 1900 it averaged over two per 1,000. Since then the figures have been as follows :—

1900,	2.9	per 1,000 of the population	
1901,	1.6	„	„
1902,	0.77	„	„
1903,	0.75	„	„
1904,	0.66	„	„

The Zymotic Deaths were as follows:—

Whooping Cough:—

Earl Shilton	1	
Barwell	3	
	—	
		4

Diphtheria:—

Higham-on-the-Hill	2	2
--------------------	---	---

Enteric Fever:—

Earl Shilton	1	1
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Diarrhœa:—

Burbage	2	2
		—
		9

Three cases of Influenza proved fatal. There was one death from Erysipelas at Earl Shilton, and I record three deaths from other septic diseases

TUBERCULOSIS.

This disease is accredited with 22 deaths, fourteen of which were caused by Consumption. You have now taken the salutary step of disinfecting rooms in which patients have died. I advise that this disinfection should in all instances be supplemented by a sanitary inspection of the premises, and the rectification of discoverable defects; together with thorough cleansing, stripping of paper, and limewashing where necessary. Printed instructions should also be issued to members of the family as to the communicable nature of the disease and as to precautions which should be taken with a view to preventing further cases. I am further of opinion that these measures should be adopted in all ascertainable cases of Consumption. With a view to facilitating their application, I recommend that the disease be made voluntarily notifiable, the usual fee of 2s. 6d. being paid in respect of all notifications received from physicians. The cost of this latter would average, in all probability, under £1 a year, and the benefit to the public health should be by no means inconsiderable.

OTHER CAUSES OF DEATH.

Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and other diseases of the respiratory organs proved fatal in twenty-one instances. There were eleven deaths from Cancer, and fourteen from diseases of the heart. I record thirteen deaths among premature and de-

fectively developed infants. Three deaths were accidental. Two deaths are attributed to Alcoholism, and one suicide is recorded.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

I received 51 notifications of Infectious diseases, viz:—

Diphtheria	7
Membranous Croup	1
Erysipelas	15
Scarlet Fever	23
Enteric Fever	5
	<hr/>
	51

DIPHTHERIA.

I record seven cases, four in Earl Shilton, two (both fatal) in Higham-on-the-Hill, and one in Sapcote. The insanitation associated with most of these cases was their salient attribute; the domestic pit, which I have so frequently alluded to as the principal and most readily remediable factor in the etiology of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever in Rural Districts, being present in every instance. In villages where public scavenging and refuse removal is undertaken, these pits are as a matter of routine replaced by properly constructed pails on the occurrence of a case. The prominent part they play as incubators of disease and polluters of wells is conceded by all sanitarians, yet here, as in most of the Rural Districts for which I am Health Officer, they are still permitted to remain in proximity to the wells which they pollute until a case occurs. True, you have during the year abolished 21 of these nuisances. At this rate of progression it would, however, take half a lifetime to get rid of the rest. I would therefore urge you, in the interest of the public health to pass a formal resolution instructing your officials to deal consecutively and promptly with all yet remaining in your district. This would involve the introduction of a system of public scavenging in all your villages, and I would suggest that the smaller villages whether, in the same or in adjoining sanitary districts, should combine for the purpose. A dispassionate consideration of the hygienic and economic aspects of this recommendation is but a reasonable request, and I submit that your acquiescence in my advice would not only effect a material improvement in the zymotic record of your district, but would sooner or later result in a substantial saving of public money.

One case of Diphtheria was removed to the Isolation Hospital.

I record a case of Membranous Croup, which occurred on very insanitary premises at Earl Shilton. Here also the insanitary pit was in evidence.

SCARLET FEVER.

The locality and age-distribution of 23 notified cases is shown in the Appendix, Table III. The disease did not reach epidemic proportions in any village. Twelve cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The disease was generally of a very mild type, and no fatal issue is recorded.

ENTERIC FEVER.

There were three cases in Barwell and two in Earl Shilton. Polluted wells and insanitary pits are in my opinion responsible in every instance. The need for hospital accommodation for Enteric Fever in your district was sorely felt by some of your poor, who through no fault of their own are quite unable to give adequate care and comfort in such cases, and are still less able to carry out the instructions of a health officer. One case proved fatal.

WATER SUPPLY.

I analysed six samples, chiefly from wells supplying houses infected with Enteric Fever. All were polluted. I would point to the desirability of your refusing to grant an occupation certificate until the owner has furnished satisfactory analytical evidence as to the suitability of the drinking water.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Details of Sanitary supervision are statistically stated in the appended Table, which has now been furnished by H. M. Chief Inspector of Factories. In my Report for 1902 I advocated the supply of schedule forms for this purpose. The staple trades of the district being hosiery and boots and shoes, there are seldom complaints as to nuisances in connection with Factories and Workshops. The offensive effluvium attributable to the burning of leather scraps, and to which I alluded in my last Annual Report, was at one time a source of frequent and well grounded complaint. I have not, however, observed it during the past year, nor have I received any complaints; from which I am lead to hope that the recurrence of this nuisance has been effectnally stopped. No case of overcrowding came under observation.

The bakehouses in your district are regularly inspected and are on the whole well kept.

I have the honour to be

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. E. O'CONNOR,

Capt.

Medical Officer of Health.

Kirby Muxloe,

Leicester.

4th February, 1905.

Sanitation of the District.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY SURVEYOR & INSPECTOR.

During the year 1904, the chief constructional works carried out have been:—

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL PARISH: = Seventy lineal yards of 12-inch pipe sewer have been laid with a view to abating an old-standing nuisance attributable to the main out-fall sewer emptying into a foul open ditch, near the centre of the village and adjoining a public footpath. This has effected a real sanitary improvement, and the effluent is now treated by broad irrigation.

EARL SHILTON PARISH: In order to provide for the drainage of new and existing houses at Church Street, into the sewerage system, 56 lineal yards of 9-inch pipe sewer have been laid, together with 50 lineal yards of 9-inch pipe sewer lowered and relaid, with a Manhole at Baptist Road junction.

Various minor works have also been executed in other Parishes.

During the year 39 PLANS have been submitted for approval, 25 were approved as satisfactory, 13 conditionally approved and 1 disapproved.

The Plans included as below:

- 14 for 36 Dwelling Houses.
- 12 „ Alterations and additions to dwelling houses.
- 2 „ Workshops.
- 2 „ Alterations and additions to Factories.
- 8 „ Other buildings and additions to buildings.
- 1 „ Wooden Shop.

In connection with the plans for the 36 dwelling houses, the following **SANITARY CONVENIENCES** were approved: 3 combined privys and ashpits, 6 water closets, 20 pan closets, 19 portable ashbins and 2 ashpits. The water supply of these houses was as follows: 8 new wells, and 3 wells cleaned out and repaired; 1 dwelling house had a supply of water laid on from the Council's mains.

During the year 129 Inspections have been made in connection with New Buildings.

Water and Completion Certificates have been granted for

occupation of 29 new dwelling houses, which have all been provided with a good and efficient supply of drinking water, and the drains properly ventilated. In connection with these houses 7 new wells were sunk, and 3 existing wells cleaned and repaired; two of the houses obtain the supply of drinking water from parish pumps, and one house had a service tap supply laid on from the Council's water mains.

WATER SUPPLY: Six samples of water have been taken from well and pump supplies and analysed, all of which were polluted in a more or less degree. In these cases the wells have been opened, examined, and all sources of apparent pollution traced and removed or rectified. The wells have been thoroughly washed down and cleaned out and efficiently protected from surface and subsoil contamination, as seemed necessary in each respective case. In two cases, privy middens which existed in the close vicinity of the wells, were abolished and pans substituted.

The whole of the Parish Pumps in the different Parishes are kept in good repair by the Council, and the wells continue to provide a good and efficient supply of water. It is satisfactory to record that no complaint was received of any source of water supply failing during the year.

STONEY STANTON WATERWORKS: These works continue to provide an effective supply of water. The filter gauzes having become choked after working satisfactory for 11 years, it has been decided to fit up the filter with a new lot of gauzes and also supply it with a fresh charge of filtering medium. A new frost protection casing enclosing the water main has been fixed alongside the quarry bridge in place of the old one, which was decayed and ineffective.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE are promptly visited, instructions given, disinfectants supplied, and the houses disinfected. Removal to the Isolation Hospital is strongly urged in all cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. It would be a boon if provision could be made for the treatment of Typhoid Fever cases at the Isolation Hospital. On November 14th last, the Council resolved to disinfect all houses after deaths from Consumption upon being requested to do so, and since that day four houses have already been disinfected.

THE SYSTEM OF SCAVENGING by contract in the Parishes of Earl Shilton, Barwell, and Burbage, can be considered to be executed in a satisfactory manner, and it would

be advisable to extend this system to other populous villages in the District. The foulest Privy Middens are gradually being abolished, and the pan system adopted, especially in the three parishes where the scavenging system is in operation.

THE SETTLING TANKS throughout the district are periodically emptied, and the Sewage Ditches and Water-courses are cleaned out, and the Flat Gradient Sewers in the district frequently flushed.

THE STREETS throughout the district are regularly and well cleansed; a good number of open gratings have been replaced with trapped gulleys (both public and private).

THE SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND BAKEHOUSES are frequently inspected and generally found to be kept in a satisfactory condition. There are no underground Bakehouses in the district.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS are frequently inspected and necessary instructions given as to cleaning and white-washing.

I have made 29 visits to the Stoke Golding Wharf during the year, for the purpose of inspecting CANAL BOATS. Upon these visits I have found no boats lying at the Wharf to afford the opportunity of inspection. This Wharf is the only stopping place on the short length of canal within our district, and it is very rarely used. The stoppings are made chiefly by the Moira District coal boats, which return directly they have been unloaded.

A register of all the FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS in the District is kept, and the list of outworkers has been obtained and records of the same have been made. It generally necessitates writing the majority of occupiers of Factories and Workshops to supply their list of outworkers. The necessary precautions are taken when homework is found deposited in infected dwellings, but it is fortunate to note that for some period no infectious disease has become epidemic. Workshops are frequently inspected, and are as a rule found satisfactory. In several cases orders and instructions have been issued and complied with.

BURBAGE SEWERAGE: The long standing and difficult question, of carrying out a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the whole of the village, which has been receiving the serious consideration of the Council for the past two years,

has now apparently reached its final stages previous to the carrying out of the actual works. Complete plans and estimates of the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for the whole village have been submitted to the Local Government Board for their approval and for sanction for a loan of £7,000. An inquiry is now pending. Provisional arrangements have been completed for the land for outfall works and for the sewer easements.

BARWELL SEWERAGE:—Upon the owner of lands having called upon the Council to abate nuisances arising from sewage of three outfalls flowing into watercourses on the west side of the Parish, this question has been fully considered as to the method to be adopted. Investigations were made as to the possibility of treating the sewage at each respective outfall by means of continuous filters, but the main point to be drained lying so low, this was found impracticable by gravitation. Preliminary plans of a scheme of sewerage has been prepared, in which the three outfalls in question are intercepted and carried on to a field containing about 14 acres, and the sewage to be dealt with by irrigation. So far, the provisional agreement is being prepared for the lease of the land.

F. TUCKEY,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Leicestershire County Council. — Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Premises, houses, &c.	..	No. inspected	..	389
		Nuisances abated	..	157
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse		No. inspected	..	36
		Nuisances abated	..	17
Animals improperly kept	..	No. inspected	..	41
		Nuisances abated	..	24
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit		No. inspected	..	135
		Nuisances abated	..	73
Drain, drain-traps, &c., &c.	..	No. inspected	..	106
		Nuisances abated	..	84
House, or part thereof, overcrowded		No. inspected	..	2
		Nuisances abated	..	2
Smoke nuisances	..	No. of observations	..	14
		Nuisances abated	..	14
Offensive accumulations	..	No. inspected	..	42
		Nuisances abated	..	40
Other insanitary conditions	..	No. inspected	..	51
		Nuisances abated	..	44
Slaughter houses, dairymen, cowkeepers, purveyors of milk		Frequently inspected		
Canal boats	..	Very short length of canal in the district which is rarely used, visits to wharf for purpose of inspections		29
Public Health Act, 1875	..	No. houses closed	..	7
		No. cleansed and limewashed	..	5
Infectious diseases	..	Houses affected with	..	46
		Houses inspected	..	48
		No. of inspections	..	90
		Houses disinfected, plus 4 for consumption	..	27
		Disinfectant used, Formalin Spray, Killgerm Fluid, Soap, &c.		
		Lots of Clothing disinfected	..	31
		.. .. destroyed	..	3
Privy middens	..	New provided	..	4
		No. repaired	..	29
		No. converted to pails	..	21
Pail or earth closets	..	New provided	..	23
		No. converted to W.C.'s	..	2
Water closets	..	New provided	..	2
Ashpits	..	New provided	..	11
		No. converted to ashbins	..	2
Ashbins	..	New provided	..	28
Water supply	..	Samples taken for analysis	..	6
		.. condemned	..	6
		Wells closed	..	1
		(polluted in more or less degree)		
		Wells cleansed, repaired, &c.	..	13
Workshops	..	Total number on register (including bakehouses)		41
		No. in which nuisances abated	..	6
Bakehouses	..	No. on register	..	20
		No. in which nuisances abated	..	3
Homework	..	No. of outworkers	..	365
		No. of houses	..	351
		No. of infected houses, (scarlet fever only)	..	3

J. E. O'CONNOR, Medical Officer of Health.

F. TUCKEY, Sanitary Inspector

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1904, for the Rural District of Hinckley.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	10	5	..
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	7	3	..
WORKPLACES.. .. .	..	..	..
HOMEWORKERS' PREMISES.. ..	10	..	..
Total	27	8	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i>			
Want of cleanliness	1	1	
Want of Ventilation .. .. .	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..
Want of Drainage of Floors .. .	..	..
Other Nuisances	3	3	
*Sanitary Ac- } insufficient .. .. .	..	
com'dations } unsuitable or defective .. ..	..	
} not separate for sexes .. .	..	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>			
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouse (S. 101)	none	exist.	
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) ..	..	..
† Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107).. .. .	..	..
Giving out work to } unwholesome (S. 108) .. ..	..	..
be done in prem- } infected (S. 110).	3	3	
ises which are } .. .. .	..	..
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S. 109)	3	3	
Other offences .. .. .	..	..
Total	10	10	

* Sec. 22 Public Health Amendment Act has been adopted.

† Generally have to write for the majority of lists.

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5)	Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors...
Other	one one 8
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—	
In use during 1903	
Certificates granted } in 1903 in 1904	none exist
In use at the end of 1904	
HOMEWORK :—	
*Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—	
Lists received	71
Addresses of } forwarded to other Authorities.. Outworkers } received from other Authorities	3 17
HOMEWORK IN UNWHOLESOME OR INFECTED PREMISES :—	
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)	
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	10
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)	
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904.	
Important classes of work-shops, such as workshop } bakehouses, may be enu- } merated here.	Bakehouses 20 Other workshops .. 21
Total number of workshops on Register ..	41

* The Lists should be received twice in the year. The year's figures required in the Table are then obtained by adding together the two half-yearly totals.

Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 of Births registered	Number.	RATE.*				Number.	Rate.*
1894	10,915	360		42		224		4				
1895		413		60		199						
1896		381		53		174						
1897		406		40		166		12				
1898		416		57		178		6				
1899		412		38		178						
1900		411		46		207						
1901	12,700	409		58		181		3		1		Not Recorded.
1902	12,980	406	31.2	45	110	174	13.6	—	—	—	6	
1903	13,265	370	28.3	39	143	155	11.6	1	1	1	9	163
Averages for years 1894-1903.												
1904		399	33.1	47	117	184	15.2					
	13,557	373	27.5	33	88	163	12.0	—	—	—	7	170
												12.5
I.												
Institutions with the District receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from outside the District.				Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from the District.								
The Isolation Hospital, Barwell.				The Union Workhouse, Hinckley.								
				The Leicester Infirmary.								
				The Cottage Hospital Hinckley.								
II.												
				Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.								
III.												

The Union Workhouse is not within the District.

Table III.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1904.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages.						
	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 years and upwards.	
Diphtheria ..	7	1	1	1	1	..	Stoney Stanton.
Membranous Group ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	Stoke Golding.
Erysipelas ..	15	1	1	1	9	3	Sharnford.
Scarlet Fever ..	23	6	12	4	1	..	Sapcote.
Enteric Fever ..	5	1	..	2	2	..	Higham-on-the-Hill.
TOTAL ..	51	10	17	7	13	3	Earl Shilton. Burbage. Barwell (H).

No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from Each Locality.				Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever.	
				..	..	..	2
Burbage	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Earl Shilton	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Higham-on-the-Hill	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sharnford	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Stoke Golding	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
				—	—	—	—
				1	1	12	12

Table IV Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1904, for Hinckley Rural District.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Aston Flamville.	Burbage.	Sapcote.	Sharford.	Stoney Stanton.	Wigston Parva.	Bigam-on-the-Hill.	Stoke Golding.	Barwell.	Earl Shilton.	Elmsthorpe
Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping-cough ..	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..
Diphtheria and Mem- ous Croup ..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Croup ..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever } Typhus..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Epidemic Influenza ..	3	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..
Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis ..	4	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Other Septic Diseases ..	3	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Phthisis ..	14	..	1	1	..	12	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	6	2	..
Other tubercular diseases	8	2	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	4	..
Cancer, malignant disease	11	..	..	..	..	7	4	..	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	3	..
Bronchitis ..	11	1	3	..	..	4	3	..	2	..	1	1	..	1	..	2	4	..
Pneumonia ..	8	3	2	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	3	..
Pleurisy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of respira- tory organs ..	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver ..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..

Table IV—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1904, for Hinckley Rural District.

[illegible]

